

Message Text

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R 170112Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY MANILA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL MADRAS
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
INFO AMCONSUL FUKUOKA
AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE
AMCONSUL NAHA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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SUBJECT: IPP-78 - THIRD COUNTRY GUIDELINES
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REF: A. STATE 38351; B. MANILA 3564 (NOTAL);
C. MANILA 2888 (NOTAL); D. KUALA LUMPUR 1642 (NOTAL);
E. KUALA LUMPUR 1837 (NOTAL); F. PARIS 5480 (NOTAL);
G. GENEVA 3165 (NOTAL); H. BANGKOK 8079 (NOTAL)

1. REFERRING TO PARA 16 REF A, MANILA HAS RAISED QUESTIONS

IN REFS B AND C AS TO WHAT IS REASONABLE LENGTH OF TIME FOR BOAT REFUGEES TO BE CONSIDERED BY THIRD COUNTRIES BEFORE THEY CAN BE CONSIDERED BY U.S.

2. AS NOTED PARAS 8 AND 14 OF REF A, ALL REFUGEES REGISTERED WITH UNHCR BEFORE FEB 1, 1978, AND ALL REGISTERED AFTER THAT DATE WHO ARE CLOSE RELATIVES OF SOMEONE IN U.S. MAY BE CONSIDERED IMMEDIATELY FOR IPP-78. AS STATED PARA 15 REF A, OTHER REFUGEES REGISTERED AFTER FEB 1 IN COUNTRIES WHERE NO THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMS ARE OPERATING MAY ALSO BE CONSIDERED IMMEDIATELY FOR IPP-78 UNLESS THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED BY THIRD COUNTRIES.

3. THIS LEAVES ONLY REFUGEES REGISTERED AFTER FEB 1, WITHOUT CLOSE RELATIVES IN U.S., IN COUNTRIES WHERE THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMS ARE OPERATING. AS STATED PARA 16 REF A, THEY SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR IPP-78 UNTIL THIRD COUNTRIES HAVE HAD A CRACK AT THEM. PARA 16 ADDED THAT POSTS SHOULD REPORT TO DEPT WHEN THERE WAS A BUILDUP OF SUCH REFUGEES WHO HAD NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THIRD COUNTRIES AFTER WHAT EACH POST CONSIDERED WAS A REASONABLE TIME.

4. FROM POST REPORTING, IT NOW APPEARS THAT THIRD COUNTRY REFUGEE PROGRAMS ARE OPERATING NOT ONLY IN THAILAND AND MALAYSIA, AS STATED PARA 16 REF A, BUT ALSO IN PHILIPPINES, UNCLASSIFIED

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INDONESIA, SINGAPORE AND HONG KONG/MACAO. IN JAPAN, TAIWAN, KOREA, AND INDIA, HOWEVER, SUCH THIRD COUNTRY REFUGEE PROGRAMS APPARENTLY DO NOT NOW EXIST, AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIRD COUNTRY DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS CONSIDER ONLY THOSE REFUGEES WHO SPECIFICALLY APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO THOSE COUNTRIES, PRESUMABLY BASED ON SPECIAL TIES TO THEM.

5. AS KUALA LUMPUR HAS NOTED IN REFS D AND E, REFUGEES IN COUNTRIES WHERE THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMS ARE FUNCTIONING WHO DO NOT HAVE CLOSE RELATIVES IN U.S. AND WHO HAVE GOOD CHANCE OF BEING ACCEPTED BY THIRD COUNTRIES SHOULD BE TOLD THAT THEY ARE NOT UNDER CONSIDERATION BY U.S.

6. BUT MANILA IN REF C SUGGESTED THAT REFUGEES IN COUNTRIES WITH THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMS WHO HAD NOT BEEN ACCEPTED AFTER ONE MONTH'S CONSIDERATION BY THIRD COUNTRIES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED UNDER IPP-78 AS NOT HAVING BEEN ACCEPTED BY THIRD COUNTRY. BANGKOK MADE SIMILAR RECOMMENDATION IN PARA 8A OF REF H.

7. DEPT AND INS/CO CONCUR THAT SUCH REFUGEES IN COUNTRIES

WITH THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMS SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED UNDER IPP-78 UNTIL AT LEAST ONE MONTH AFTER THEIR DATE OF REGISTRATION WITH UNHCR. THEREAFTER, THEY MAY BE CONSIDERED BY U.S. BUT, AS STATED PARA 19 REF A, EVEN IF A REFUGEE WITHOUT CLOSE RELATIVES IN U.S. IS APPROVED BY INS HE WILL NOT BE COUNTED FIRMLY IN U.S. PROGRAM UNTIL SPONSORSHIP ASSURANCE IS RECEIVED. IF A THIRD COUNTRY ACCEPTANCE COMES THROUGH BEFORE THAT TIME HE WILL BE DROPPED FROM U.S. PROGRAM.

8. AS INDICATED PARA 15 REF A, IN COUNTRIES WITHOUT THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMS, UNHCR REPS SHOULD BE ASKED TO BRING CASES OF REFUGEES WHO DO NOT HAVE CLOSE RELATIVES IN U.S.

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BUT WHO HAVE TIES TO OR PREFERENCE FOR THIRD COUNTRIES TO ATTENTION OF THIRD COUNTRY DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS. SUCH REFUGEES SHOULD SIMILARLY BE TOLD THAT THEY ARE NOT UNDER CONSIDERATION BY U.S. BUT AFTER AT LEAST ONE MONTH THEY MAY BE CONSIDERED UNDER SAME TERMS AS STATED PARA 7 ABOVE.

9. IN COUNTRIES WITHOUT THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMS REFUGEES WHOM POST DOES NOT CONSIDER LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED BY THIRD COUNTRIES SHOULD BE TREATED AS SET FORTH IN PARA 2 ABOVE AND PARA 15 REF A.

10. REFUGEES WHO DO NOT HAVE CLOSE RELATIVES IN U.S. AND WHO ARE EITHER IN COUNTRIES WITH OR WITHOUT THIRD COUNTRY PROGRAMS SHOULD OF COURSE BE AWARE OF FRENCH POLICY OUTLINED REF F TO GRANT ENTRY TO ANY BOAT REFUGEE WHO WISHES TO COME TO FRANCE. IN THIS REGARD, WE ARE PERPLEXED BY DIFFICULTIES FRENCH IN PHILIPPINES HAVE IN ACCEPTING BOAT REFUGEES, AS OUTLINED REFS B AND G. WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EMBASSY MANILA GETTING AN EXPLANATION FROM FRENCH EMBASSY OF WHAT PROBLEM IS.

11. WILL RESPOND SEPARATELY TO RECOMMENDATION PARA 8B REF H REGARDING REFUGEES WITHOUT CLOSE RELATIVES IN BUT CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH U.S. VANCE

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